GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:419
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
PROBLEMS CONFRONTING INDIANS IN MALAYSIA
Khanna Shri Avinash Rai

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Indian youths have gone to Malaysia to earn their livelihood;

(b) if so, the approximate number thereof;

(c) whether 45 Indian youth had recently staged a dharna in front of the Indian Embassy in Malaysia;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government has discussed this issue with the Government of Malaysia;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (g) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN PARTS (a) to (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 419 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2005 REGARDING PROBLEMS CONFRONTING INDIANS IN MALAYSIA.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that there are over 70,000 Indian workers in Malaysia, of whom approximately 30,000 Indian workers are registered with the High Commission of India in Kuala Lumpur.

(c) & (d) 45 Indian workers had camped in front of the High Commission from 29.08.2005 to 16.09.2005. Their main grievances were that the Malaysian employer (a labour contractor) had not paid them the promised salary or provided proper boarding and lodging. The concerned agents with the intervention of the High Commission repatriated all of them to India in a phased manner from 03.09.2005 to 16.09.2005. The High Commission also made arrangements for their food till they were repatriated to India.

(e) & (f) The High Commission had immediately taken up the matter with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Malaysia conveying details of the problems caused by the local employer, and for retrieval of the passports of Indian nationals from the Malaysian Immigration authorities. Who were also requested to extend and regularize the visas of the affected Indian nationals as appropriate so as to facilitate their repatriation to India.

(g) Does not arise.